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DRAFTED BY: AF/P:MBSWANN

APPROVED BY: AF/P:BWALKLEY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

ALL OECD CAPITALS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CALGARY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMCONSUL DURBAN PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMCONSUL JEDDAH PRIORITY

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUANDA PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY RIYADH PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SANAA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS
DATE/CASE ID: 25 NOV 2003 200301834

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USEC BRUSSELS PRIORITY
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USIA WASHDC PRIORITY 0000
SOMALIA COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
USCINCTRANS INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL PRIORITY

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, PREL, XA, US

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE - APRIL 13, 1994

1. BELOW IS GUIDANCE ON RWANDA, BURUNDI AND SOUTH AFRICA

2. RWANDA

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Q. WHAT IS THE CURRENT SITUATION IN RWANDA?

A. -- ALL AMERICANS WHO WISHED TO LEAVE RWANDA ARE OUT OF THE COUNTRY. THERE ARE NO U.S. GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES IN RWANDA AND THE EMBASSY IS TEMPORARILY UNSTAFFED. WITHOUT A U.S. GOVERNMENT PRESENCE ON THE GROUND IN RWANDA WE CANNOT OBTAIN FIRST-HAND REPORTS ON THE SITUATION.

-- PRESS AND OTHER SECOND-HAND REPORTS INDICATE THAT THE SECURITY SITUATION IN RWANDA CONTINUES TO DETERIORATE. THERE ARE REPORTS OF FIERCE FIGHTING IN KIGALI BETWEEN THE RWANDAN MILITARY AND THE RWANDA PATRIOTIC FRONT (RPF). ETHNIC VIOLENCE CONTINUES IN THE CITY.

-- THE FRENCH HAVE COMPLETED EVACUATION OF THEIR NATIONALS FROM RWANDA, BUT MANY BELGIANS REMAIN IN THE COUNTRY.

-- SOME MEMBERS OF THE INTERIM RWANDAN GOVERNMENT HAVE APPARENTLY MOVED OUT OF KIGALI, REPORTEDLY TO GITARAMA, APPROXIMATELY 40 KILOMETERS FROM THE CAPITAL.

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-- THOUSANDS OF CIVILIANS ARE REPORTEDLY DEPARTING THE CAPITAL FOR GITARAMA, BUTARE, AND OTHER AREAS TO THE SOUTH. ALTHOUGH SOME PRESS REPORTS SPEAK OF THOUSANDS OF REFUGEES FLEEING INTO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES, INTERNATIONAL RELIEF AGENCIES HAVE NOTED LITTLE REFUGEE OUTFLOW ACROSS BORDERS.

Q. HAVE RPF FORCES ENTERED THE CAPITAL?
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A. -- REPORTS INDICATE THAT AT LEAST SOME OF THE RPF FORCES FROM THE NORTH HAVE ENTERED THE CAPITAL. AT THE OUTSET OF THE CRISIS, A 600-PERSON RPF CONTINGENT WAS ALREADY IN THE CAPITAL UNDER PROVISIONS OF THE <<ARUSHA>> <<PEACE>> <<ACCORD>>.

Q. WHERE IS AMBASSADOR RAWSON?

A. -- HE IS CURRENTLY IN BUJUMBURA, BURUNDI, AND IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

Q. HOW MANY AMERICANS WERE EVACUATED, AND ARE ANY LEFT IN RWANDA?

A. -- THE EVACUATION OF AMERICANS FROM RWANDA IS COMPLETE. ALL AMERICANS WHO WISHED TO LEAVE RWANDA HAVE LEFT THE COUNTRY.

-- SEVERAL AMERICANS HAVE ELECTED TO REMAIN IN RWANDA. IN ADDITION, SEVERAL OTHER AMERICANS ARE EMPLOYEES OF U.N. AGENCIES OR OF THE ICRC. THEY AWAIT THE EVACUATION PLANS OF THEIR ORGANIZATIONS.

-- TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, ALL AMERICANS REMAINING IN RWANDA ARE SAFE.

Q. AMERICANS ARE OUT; IS THE U.S. STILL CONCERNED ABOUT RWANDA?

A: -- YES. WE CALL ON ALL PARTIES IN RWANDA TO STOP THE
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FIGHTING IMMEDIATELY. THEY NEED TO NEGOTIATE A TRUCE

RGENTLY AND BEGIN DISCUSSIONS TOWARDS NATIONAL
RECONCILIATION.

Q. WHAT IS THE U.N. DOING?

A:-- THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL IS MEETING AT 4:00 PM TODAY
TO REVIEW THE UN'S PRESENT AND FUTURE ROLE IN RWANDA.

-- THE UNAMIR FORCE COMMANDER AND THE SPECIAL
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IN KIGALI ARE
CONTINUING EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE A MILITARY CEASE-FIRE
AMONG THE FIGHTING GROUPS. THEY HAVE ALSO ATTEMPTED TO
ESTABLISH SOME POLITICAL DIALOGUE.

-- THE UN FORCES IN KIGALI HAVE PROVIDED PROTECTION FOR
THE INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO EVACUATE FOREIGN NATIONALS IN
RWANDA. THEY ARE ALSO PROTECTING THOUSANDS OF RWANDANS IN
THEIR COMPOUND. HOWEVER, THEY HAVE NO MANDATE TO ENGAGE
IN EFFORTS TO ENFORCE ORDER IN THE COUNTRY.

Q. IF THE U.N. CAN'T SAVE RWANDA, WHO CAN?

A. -- THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WILL DO ITS BEST TO
ASSIST THE SEARCH FOR PEACE IN RWANDA, BUT THE ULTIMATE
RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SUCCESS OF THESE EFFORTS IS WITH
THE RWANDANS THEMSELVES.

3. BURUNDI

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Q. WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI?

A. -- THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI REMAINS CALM. THE AIRPORT
IN BUJUMBURA IS OPEN AND INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS ARE
OPERATING.

-- THE U.S. EMBASSY IN BUJUMBURA REMAINS OPEN. BEFORE
APRIL 6, THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 180 AMERICANS IN
BURUNDI, FEWER THAN HALF OF WHOM WERE U.S. GOVERNMENT
EMPLOYEES AND DEPENDENTS.

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-- ON APRIL 7, THE DAY AFTER THE DEATHS OF THE PRESIDENTS OF RWANDA AND BURUNDI, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ORDERED THE TEMPORARY DEPARTURE OF ALL U.S. GOVERNMENT DEPENDENTS AND NON-ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL AND ISSUED A TRAVEL WARNING WHICH ADVISED PRIVATE U.S. CITIZENS TO DEPART BURUNDI.

4. SOUTH AFRICA

Q: WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE INTERNATIONAL MEDIATORS?

A: -- THE ANC AND THE INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY INVITED SEVEN INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING TWO AMERICAN CITIZENS -, DR. HENRY KISSINGER AND JUDGE LEON HIGGINBOTHAM, TO HELP MEDIATE OUTSTANDING CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES BETWEEN THE PARTIES. MEDIATORS HAVE MET WITH PRESIDENT DE KLERK, ANC PRESIDENT MANDELA AND CHIEF MINISTER BUTHELEZI.

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Q: WHAT ROLE HAS THE USG TAKEN IN THE MEDIATION?

A: -- AT THE REQUEST OF BOTH KISSINGER AND HIGGINBOTHAM THE DEPARTMENT HAS PROVIDED THEM BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON ISSUES WHICH MAY BE RELEVANT TO THEIR POSSIBLE ROLES AS MEDIATORS.

-- WE HOPE THE MEDIATION WILL PROVE USEFUL IN RESOLVING THE DIFFERENCES THAT FUEL MUCH OF THE ONGOING VIOLENCE.

-- THE USG HAD NO ROLE IN THE SELECTION OF THE MEDIATORS OR ANY OTHER ASPECT OF THE MEDIATION INITIATIVE. AMERICANS PARTICIPATING ARE ACTING IN A PRIVATE CAPACITY. MINIMIZE CONSIDERED

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